BACKGROUND INFORMATION

NESTAR SYSTEMS, INCORPORATED

Nestar Systems, Incorporated was founded in 1978 in the State of California by a group of individuals highly skilled in state-of-the-art techniques of large computer systems and communications technology. Their charter was to apply those skills to the infant microcomputer field by designing, developing, manufacturing and marketing a local networking system which takes advantage of the economy of established microcomputers while offering large system capabilities and technology. Called the Nestar Clustershared System, these microcomputer-based networks are composed of interconnected intelligent user stations which can exchange data and programs, share common peripherals, and access remote mainframes. The systems are highly affordable, user-friendly, state-of-the-art applications of local networking techniques.

In July 1980, Nestar completed a financial agreement with Zynar Limited of London, a subsidiary of The Rank Organisation. In addition to the financial ties between the two companies, Zynar and Nestar will engage in ongoing joint development of both hardware and software microcomputer products. As well, Nestar's Cluster/One product line will be marketed in Western Europe by Zynar under an exclusive marketing arrangement.

NESTAR CLUSTERSHARED PRODUCT LINE

CLUSTER/ONE, MODEL A

The Cluster/One, Model A is a unique system designed to provide sophisticated local networking and resource-sharing features for the Apple II computer. The Model A Clustershared System support up to 65 Apple II's in one local network and features such system capabilities as station-to-station communications, data files access and file security, all done with extensive error checking for high reliability.

Marketed in the U. S. by a select group of retail computer dealers and OEM's, the Model A has reached a highly diverse user market, including secondary schools, universities, large commercial banks, amusement and leisure-time applications as well as professional and business applications through OEM's.

The success of the Cluster/One, Model A has been due to the high reliability of the system's hardware and software design, the attractive price performance ratio, and the responsive customer support offered by Nestar and its dealers.

CLUSTER/ONE, MODEL ONE

Nestar's initial product - the Cluster/One, Model One - was designed with the educational customer in mind. Its affordability, reliability, and ease of use for the novice made it an attractive and popular system within the educational community. It offered a high performance alternative to having separate disks and other peripherals for each microcomputer. The Model One can support a combination of Commodore PET's, Radio Shack TRS-80's, and Apple II's in one local network. Nestar has met its design goals with the Cluster/One, Model One by providing three key benefits: reliability through the use of industrial-grade hardware, program library sharing and central program management on one large shared central disk, and expandability, being field upgradable to a maximum of thirty stations per central controller.

ADDITIONAL PRODUCTS

In addition to its Clustershared product line, Nestar's Palo Alto IC's division manufactures and markets the BASIC Programmer's Toolkit^{tm}. First shipped in September 1979, the Toolkit gives the Commodore PET personal computer user some very significant enhancements to the PET BASIC interpreter. It is presently marketed worldwide and is the most popular selling hardware accessory for the PET computer outside of the Commodore-produced products.

NESTAR SENIOR MANAGEMENT

President

Dr. Harry J. Saal, founder and president of Nestar Systems, Inc. has been involved with computer systems design and implementation for over ten years. His specialty is multi-user interactive programming system organization. He has held faculty positions in Computer Science at Stanford University, the State University of New York, and prior to founding Nestar, was a project leader in the General Products Division of IBM, in San Jose.

Vice President of Engineering

Dr. Leonard J. Shustek manages both computer systems software and hardware activities at Nestar. Educated at Stanford University, Dr. Shustek was a faculty member in the Computer Science Department of Carnegie-Mellon University. He has consulted to a number of firms engaged in the manufacture of large scale and microprocessor systems. His specialty is the design and evaluation of computer systems architecture.

Treasurer

Nicholas A. Fortis has spent over twenty years in the computer industry with Control Data Corporation and Stanford University and was an early employee with Amdahl Corporation. In his various positions he has been responsible for computer research group administration, personnel selection, facilities and business planning.

Chief Systems Architect, New Products

Dr. Edward P. Stritter completed his graduate studies in Computer Science at Stanford University. He joined Motorola Semiconductor Group in Austin, Texas where he served as chief architect for the MC68000 microprocessor and was responsible for implementing the MC68000 PASCAL compiler.

Vice President, Sales

Donald C. Anderson has had extensive experience in sales, marketing and management with such companies as Burroughs, Wang and Memorex. He served as Vice President of Marketing for Byte Industries and has done marketing consulting in the area of microcomputers. He has also been involved in the retail sales of microcomputers as owner and President of the Computer Demo Room, San Francisco.